

WPM-LC

Nicholas Carroll to Willie P. Mangum.

54 WALL ST,
Thanksgiving day
Nov. 23d/48

My dear Judge

You knew Mr. Seaman⁵¹ the member of Congress in 45 & 46 from Richmond & King's Co in this State? He was said to have been one of the *best* member of that Congress.

Will you put a little of your heart in a letter to him *about* the matter? The reason why is this, Mr. Wakeman the former *Corresponding Secy. & Superintending Agent of the American Institute* is deceased. The compensation is a mere bagatelle but it is of importance in view of the approaching change of the Tariff that it should be in the hands of *the* right person Now if my good friend the Judge will say what he pleases of me to Henry J. Seaman ex. M. C. it will probably *be* the entering wedge & the clincher. I have an ardent & warm support from our mutual friends here in the Institute, many of the I.O.O.F. being members, and of old I was one of the Lords paramount in the Institute. In view of the future a worse man might have it & controlled, it is of great benefit to the incoming administration. Will you nib one of your pens in your best style & indite such a document as you *only* know how to write?

Greely is only keeping in check certain operations when his & other batteries will be opened in your behalf & probably Clayton's. The Cabinet to suit this atmosphere would include yourself, Clayton & King, & then the least objectionable from the Free States & that is very hard to determine.

Seward is pushing all he & his friends know how for the Senate.⁵² Collier is equally hard at work while Joshua A. Spencer to my notion grows stronger every day- The other candidates are D. D. Barnard (a cousin german of Jack Frost's) Ogden Hoffman, Mark Sibley, Luther Braddish & Jerome Fuller. It *may* so turn out that the last will be first.

⁵¹Henry John Seaman, 1805-1861, was the America Party Congressman from 1845 to 1847. Thereafter, he was interested in the development of railroads, plank roads, and bridges. *Biog. Dir. of Cong.*, 1505.

⁵²See above, 126n.